

App. No. 10/565,974
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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the title with the following:

A METHOD OF SCREENING FOR A DRUG THAT IS USED FOR PREVENTING AND TREATING CARDIAC FAILURE, THE DRUG REMEDY FOR CARDIAC FAILURE CONTAINING ASK1 INHIBITOR AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT AND METHOD FOR SCREENING THE SAME

Please replace the abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a ~~drug for at least one of prevention and treatment of cardiac failure capable of suppressing cardiac depression and the onset of cardiac failure in ventricular remodeling, and~~ a method for of screening the for a drug that is used for at least one of prevention and treatment of cardiac failure and is capable of suppressing cardiac depression and the onset of cardiac failure in ventricular remodeling. The drug ~~for at least one of prevention and treatment of cardiac failure of the present invention~~ contains a compound that inhibits a functional expression of ASK1 protein in a cardiomyocyte as an active ingredient, and ~~[[a]] the method for screening a drug for at least one of prevention and treatment of cardiac failure of the present invention~~ includes selecting a medicinal component for at least one of prevention and treatment of cardiac failure from a drug candidate compound by using inhibition of a functional expression of ASK1 protein as an indication. As shown in FIG. 1, if ASK1 protein is removed, for example, the ventricle dilation can be attenuated in ventricular remodeling after myocardial infarction, pressure loading, or the like, which makes it possible to prevent and treat cardiac failure.